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Food Microbiological Testing in Dr. Sadhana Ravishankar's lab

Bacterial Population

This test results in an enumeration of the total aerobic bacterial population of a sample. The results can be applied to internal acceptance criteria for a product or environmental HACCP samples. Environmental surface samples can also be analyzed.

Antimicrobial Efficacy

Antimicrobial effectiveness test is a valuable tool for evaluating either intrinsic antimicrobial properties, or different types and levels of added antimicrobial agents. We can test the efficacy of any type of antimicrobial agent.

Sanitation Validation

To ensure that the sanitation procedure is being performed effectively validation should be done periodically. We can analyze for basic microbial contaminants to verify proper cleaning.

Microbial Shelf-life Studies

We can test the effects of microbial load on product's shelf life for various types of foods including fresh produce, juices, meats and poultry, seafood, and dairy products.

Total Coliforms & *E. coli*

Coliforms are often referred to as indicator organisms, their presence in the environment can indicate that conditions are favorable for pathogens to be present. The presence of generic *E. coli* in a sample indicates fecal contamination. The Total Coliform/*E. coli* test is a fast inexpensive way to assess the cleanliness of an environment or food, and can also be used to collect information regarding the potential for other contamination.

Screening for Foodborne Pathogenic Bacteria

We can perform several foodborne pathogen screens from foods including:

- *Escherichia coli* O157:H7
- *Salmonella enterica*
- *Listeria. monocytogenes*
- *Staphylococcus aureus*
- *Campylobacter jejuni*
- *Enterobacter sakazakii*

Surface and Air Sampling

We can perform sampling for microbial contaminants on various food contact surfaces and in the processing environment (air).

Price List*

Test	Price per Sample
Total Coliforns	$25
Escherichia coli	$25
E. coli O157:H7	$55
Salmonella	$35
Listeria monocytogenes	$40
Staphylococcus aureus	$25
Campylobacter jejuni	$100
Enterobacter sakazaki	$55
Yeast and Mold	$20
APC/SPC	$20
pH	$15
Fees for other projects (e.g., shelf life studies, antimicrobial efficacy, sanitation validation, etc.) are negotiable based on specific requirements.	

*administration fee of 10% not included in price listing; University of Arizona departments are discounted at 25%.